Vehicles operating in Delhi

816. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the total number of vehicles operating in Delhi as on 31st October, 2003;

(b) whether the road space available to accommodate the vehicles in Delhi is inadequate and is unlikely to go up in the near future; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to restrict the number of vehicles and increase the road space during the next five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) The total number of vehicles registered in Delhi as on 31st October, 2003 was 40,45,492. In addition, a large number of vehicles registered in other States also ply on the roads of Delhi. The number of such vehicles varies from time to time.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The steps envisaged by the Government to reduce congestion on roads in Delhi include implementation of the Metro Rail project; introduction of High Capacity Bus System and Electric Trolley System in the selected corridors; widening of roads, and such measures as parking controls, road and bridge tolls, staggering of office hours and weekly market holidays, etc.

Stampede during Kumbh at Nasik

817. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many people died and got injured during Kumbh Mahotsav at Nasik during August-September this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what were the causes for security lapses for pilgrims;

(d) the steps taken by Central Government to prevent such incidents and the responsibility fixed on administration of concerned State; and

(e) the details of compensation paid for deaths and injuries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 29 persons were killed and 118